

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-10, 13-15, and 18-19 are pending in this application. The title has been amended per the request of the Office. Claims 1 and 13 are amended to clarify the scope of the invention. Independent claims 18 and 19 are added to further clarify the scope of the invention. Support for the amendment, including the added claims, appears, for example, at pages 3, 7, and 8 of the application. Claim 6 is amended to correct an inadvertent typographical error and thus to correct an antecedent basis problem.

Objection to Title

The Office Action objects to the title of the invention as not being descriptive. Applicants previously amended, in a response to an Office Action filed on June 4, 2004, the title to include additional descriptive text. By this amendment, Applicants again amend the title to add additional descriptive text. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the title. If the Office believes that the title is still not descriptive, Applicants request that the Office propose a title of the invention.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The Office Action rejects claim 6 as failing to comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112 second paragraph as being indefinite. Claim 6 has been amended to correct an inadvertent typographical error and thus to correct an antecedent basis problem. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection of claim 6 should be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4-10, and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Goss *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 3,909,797 (hereinafter "*Goss*").

Applicants assert that *Goss* fails to disclose "microinstruction sequencing logic associated with the microinstruction sequencer stack, wherein the microinstruction sequencing logic determines if a microinstruction affects the microinstruction sequencer stack by determining if the microinstruction includes an operations encoding defined to control the microinstruction sequencer stack" as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claim 13.

Goss relates to a computer system that facilitates the execution of nested subroutines. *Goss* at Abstract. *Goss* describes that a control store unit, illustrated as ref. no. 26 in FIG. 1, directs all operations of an address control unit. *Goss* at 5:10-17. *Goss*'s control store unit 26 of

FIG. 1 is shown in detail in *Goss*'s FIG. 2. *Goss* at 6:4-5. The Office Action places great weight on *Goss*'s Abstract and col. 8:16-62 to support its assertion that *Goss* discloses "microinstruction sequencing logic to determine if there are any microinstructions being issued which affect the microinstruction sequencer stack." Office action at ¶ 7 (internal citations omitted). Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 13 to identify one way the logic can determine if there are any microinstructions being issued which affect the microinstruction sequencer stack. As clarified by the amendments made herein, Applicants assert that *Goss* fails to disclose "microinstruction sequencing logic associated with the microinstruction sequencer stack, wherein the microinstruction sequencing logic determines if a microinstruction affects the microinstruction sequencer stack by determining if the microinstruction includes an operations encoding defined to control the microinstruction sequencer stack" as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claim 13. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of independent claims 1 and 13 should be withdrawn.

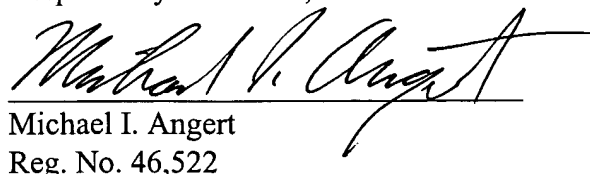
For the reasons set forth above, Applicants submit that independent claims 1 and 13 define patentable subject matter. Claims 4-10 and 14-15 depend from independent claims 1 and 13, respectively and therefore, also define patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants request that the § 102(b) rejection of claims 1, 4-10, and 13-15 be withdrawn.

Conclusion:

The claims are allowable over the prior art for the reasons set forth above. A Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge all required fees, including all required claim fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or all required extension of time fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,


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